

C. Drawings

Please cancel Fig. 7 without prejudice or disclaimer.

E. Remarks

The claims are 74-76, with claim 74 being independent, which have been added in lieu of claims 1-73. The latter claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the new claims may be found in the cancelled, original claims. Additional support may be found, *inter alia*, in the specification as originally filed at page 35, lines 5-8; page 43, line 22 , through page 45, line 4; page 87, lines 5-15; and in Example 5 (cf. Example 6 in connection with the presence or absence of a black matrix (wall)). Also, the specification has been replaced with a substitute specification to correct various informalities in the text, as well as to better conform it with proper idiomatic English. The new claims are consistent with the species previously elected by Applicants. Lastly, Fig. 7 has been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Consideration of the new claims is expressly requested.

The Examiner stated in the Office Action that Applicants must submit sworn translations of priority applications in their response to avoid abandonment in view of 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(5)(iv). Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner.

The Examiner will note that 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(5)(iv) relates to claiming priority from a non-English language provisional application. The priority claim to non-English language applications in this case, however, is based on 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) and not on 35 U.S.C. § 119(e), i.e., Applicants claims the benefit of priority from a foreign application and not from a provisional U.S. application filed in a language other than English. The Examiner will appreciate that sworn translations of foreign priority

applications are not required to avoid abandonment in this case.

The specification and Fig. 7 are objected to for not complying with the formal sequence listing requirements.

In response, Applicants have amended the specification and cancelled Fig. 7 in order to address the Examiner's concerns. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

Claims 52 and 64 are objected to due to minor informalities. The Examiner also objected to the numbering of claims. Claim 32 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite. Claims 1-9, 11, 12, 18, 20, 21, 23-26, 34-38, 43-57, 63, 64, 66, 67, 72 and 73 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,807,522 (Brown). Claims 1-9, 11-13, 18, 25, 27, 28, 45-50, 52, 53 and 57-59 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,656,462 (Keller). Claims 1, 2, 25-28 and 31-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,688,642 (Chrissey). Claims 1-3, 20, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30-42, 45-47, 50, 52, 54 and 56-71 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,476,215 B1 (Okamoto).

Since Applicants have cancelled all previously presented claims in favor of new claims 74-76, the above rejections and objections are moot and should be withdrawn. Applicants stress that the cancellation of the claims is made solely to expedite prosecution and is not to be viewed as an acquiescence with the Examiner's position.

Applicants submit that the newly added claims 74-76 are clearly patentable

over the art cited by the Examiner in the Office Action. Specifically, claims 74-76 are related to detection of a target substance in a plurality of liquid samples. Brown, Keller, Chrisey and Okamoto teach microarrays with probes fixed on their solid surfaces and the use of these microarrays. Applicants submit that these references do not disclose or suggest detection of a target substance in a plurality of liquid samples or any benefit associated therewith.

Wherefore, allowance of claims 74-76 and expedient passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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